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# ANIMALS AND WORKERS



IDEAS IN  
PICTURES #3



hi. my name is colin.

this booklet was made as part of the project "animals and workers,"

So far, the other component of this project is a

winding corridor (similar to the path an animal may travel before it is slaughtered) that is lined with painted images of animals and workers.

the installation part of this project was constructed once (in Ann Arbor, Mi)

I am currently working on the possibility of setting it up in other places.

this project "animals and workers" is my attempt to understand the relationships between these two groups in a factory farming/ slaughterhouse situation.

anyway I hope you enjoy this pamphlet.

thanks for bearing with me. i think of this pamphlet as offering instances,

small specific documents arranged together... to evoke compassion in the participant/reader.

....an attempt to capture some of the complexities in the meat and dairy industry.

as i explore different aspects of the industry

i realize the whole objective is to profit from killing.....this does not seem like the best way to be involved in business.

.....i'm thinking there is no reason to expect anything from this industry.

....there is no reason for them to expect anything from me either, especially my money.

thanks for Reading .... My contact INFO is:

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# Disclaimer

I am a victim of the meat industry..

Meat industry casualty =

I saw a stencil.

It said war casualty. Doing anti-war work I was thinking about the idea of casualties.

In war a certain amount of life lost/taken is accepted.

This is not the only time decisions like this are made but it is one of the only times we talk about making decisions while considering the casualties that result from them.

Many choices we make cause

Injury or Death - The MEAT AND DAIRY INDUSTRY IS IN THE BUSINESS OF IT.



IATION



MEAT industry CASUALTIES



## CONTENTS: 2. Hi.

3 - Meat Industry Casualties.

4 - Yep You're Looking at It.

5 - Discarded

6-7 Pigs

8. Can they Suffer?

9 Mother

10 Speciesism.

11 Caged Pigs

12 Eggs and Hens

13 Cows

14-16 - #284

17 - Man with Knife

18 - Ear tags, Animals, and Workers

19 Slaughterhouse Workers and Soldiers

20-22 IBF

23 - #0634

24 - I feel uneasy (continued)

25 - Woman with Chain

26 - Disclaimer.

27 - Thanks for Bearing with me.

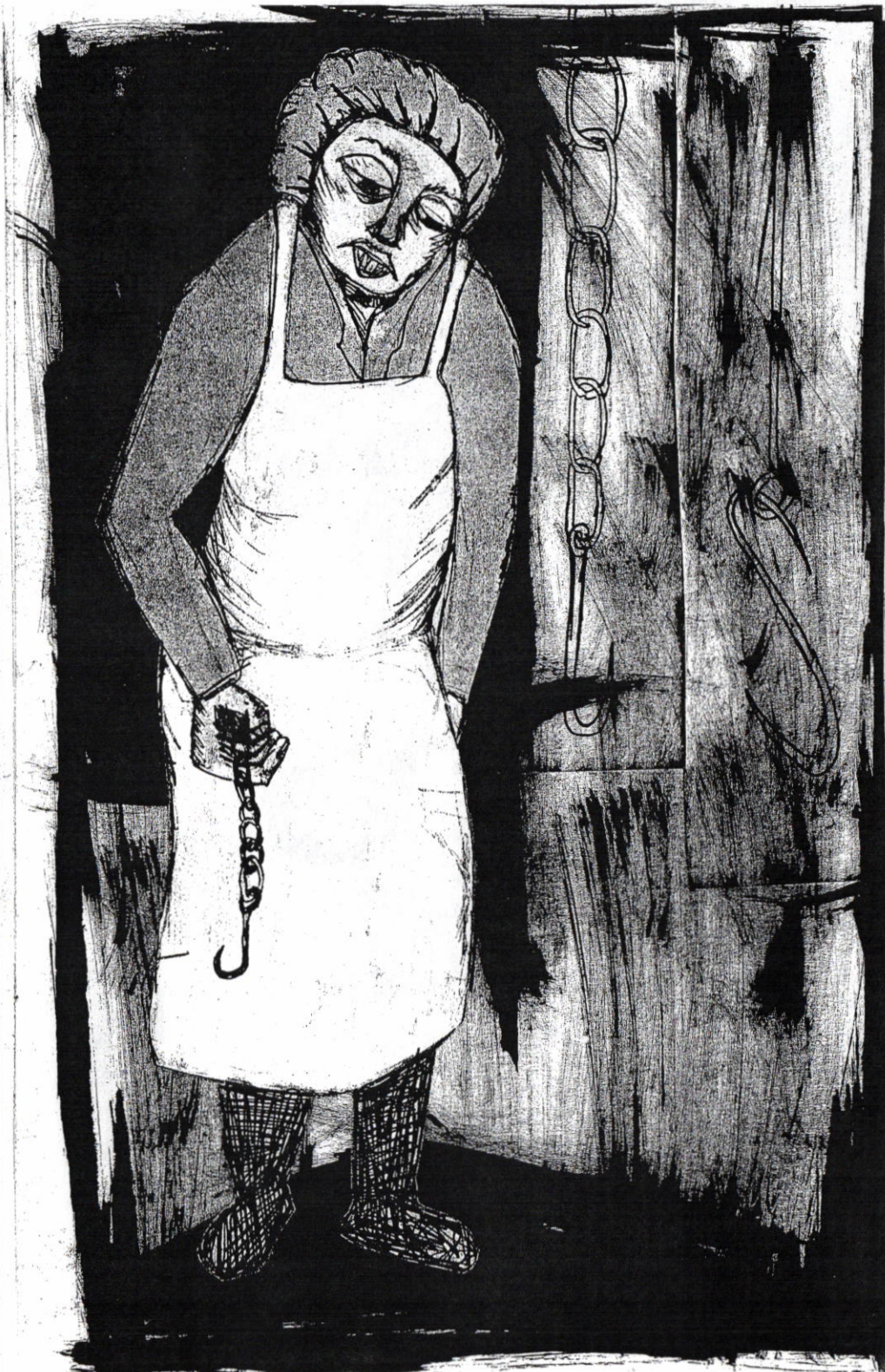
I feel uneasy.

inevitably, as the connections in different issues become apparent, i think about relationships i feel uncomfortable putting down in print.

the main reason i focus on animal rights issues is a guttural reaction i feel for the suffering of farmed animals, (and yes that term makes animals sound synonymous to crops like corn or wheat).

another reason i focus my attention on animal rights issues is animals need people to speak for them or else their voice is not often heard in human society.

continued on p. 24





who needs another white guy talking about what  
would make life better for women or racial  
minorities?

here i am making the connection between animals  
on factory farms and slaughterhouses and  
workers on factory farms and slaughterhouses.

many slaughterhouse workers are women and racial  
minorities. they often have the worst jobs in these  
industries and get the lowest pay.

animal rights issues become human rights issues.  
they are so increasingly interconnected.

i believe in order to stop the exploitation of  
animals we must also stop the exploitation of  
workers and to stop the exploitation of animals.  
we must also stop the exploitation of animals.

i do not see any of these issues as taking precedent  
over the other....although i realize if i was a  
member of one of these oppressed groups i may feel  
differently.

i am also requesting your input on these ideas.....  
especially if you are a member of a group previously  
mentioned. i hope this input will further our  
understanding of the complexities of these  
situations.

if you have any input please write me at the  
address on the back cover.

an egg laying hen's newly hatched male chicks are  
discarded in the poultry industry.

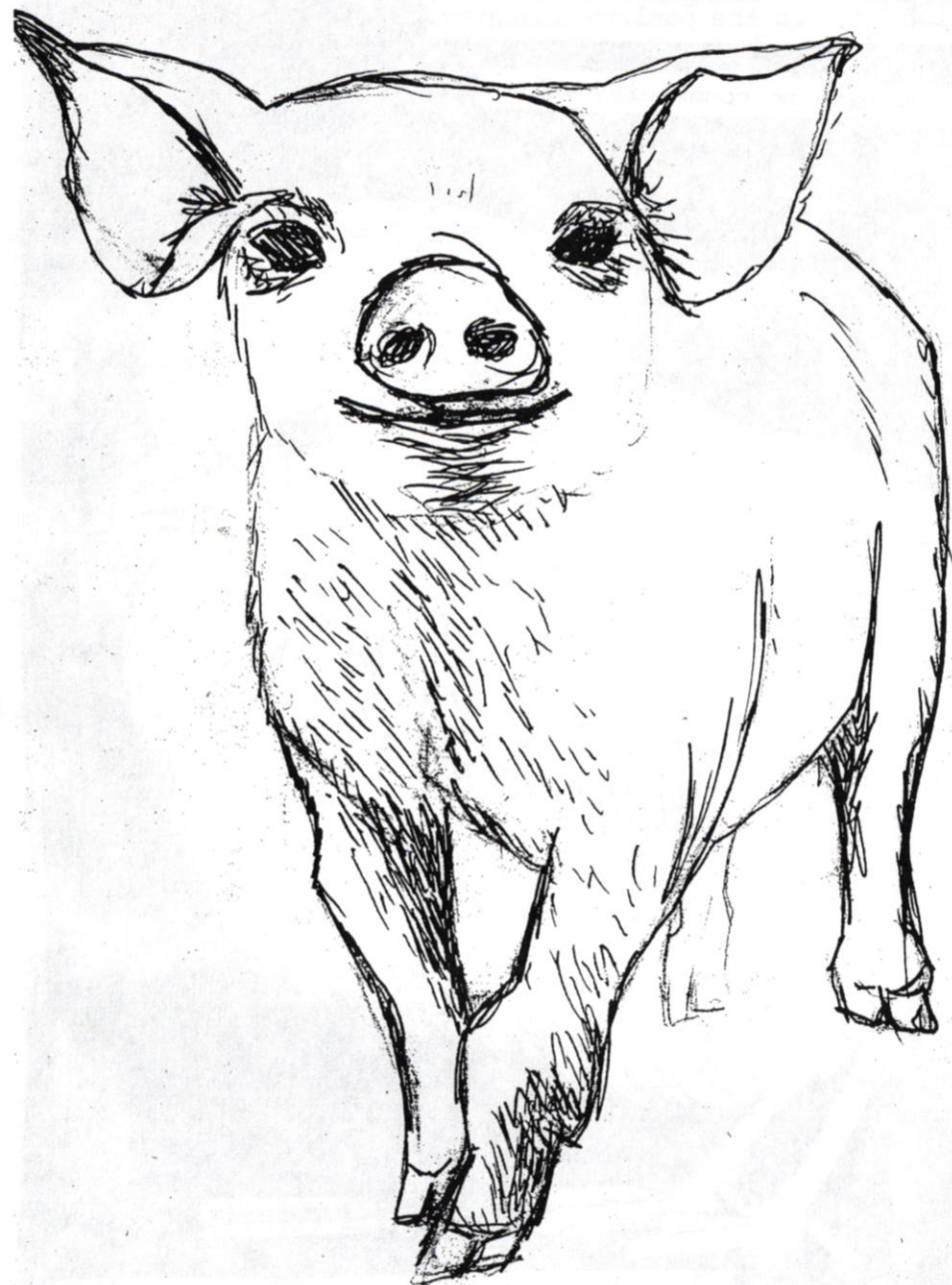
they have no commercial value.



discarded=

gassed, dumped alive in a plastic sack and  
allowed to suffocate, or ground up, while still alive,  
and fed to their sisters.





EMPLOYEE #0634

a SINGLE MOTHER  
with 4 children

AN exception to the  
rule, A lady

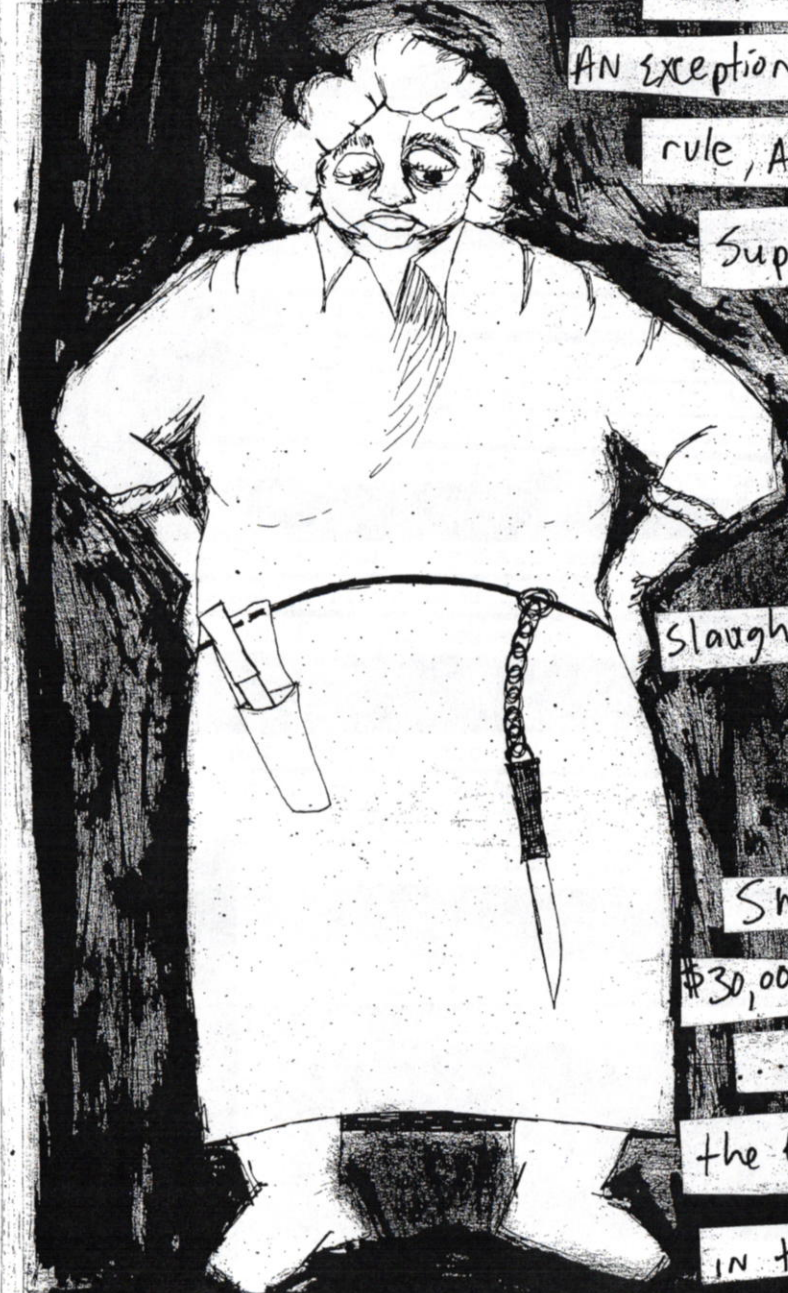
Supervisor

IN A

Slaughterhouse.

She makes  
\$30,000 a year

... one of  
the best jobs  
in the area.







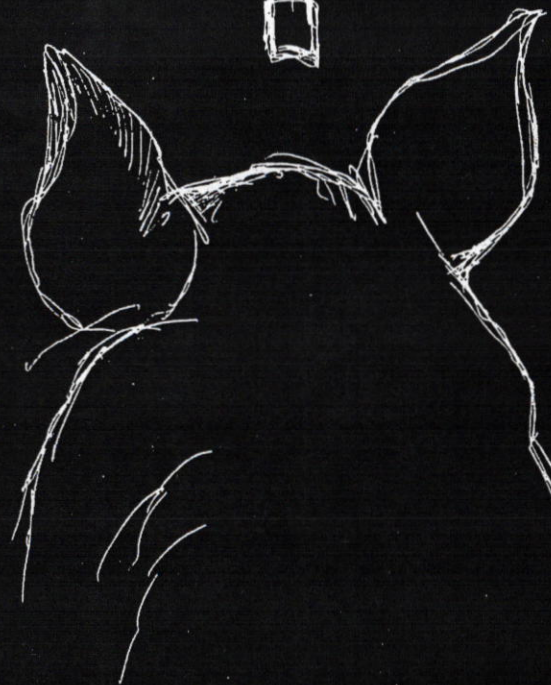
IBP (Iowa Beef Packers) has a labor office in Mexico city, runs adds on Mexican radio stations offering jobs in the US, and operates a bus service from rural Mexico to the heartland of America,

the INS estimates 1/4 of all meatpacking workers in Iowa and Nebraska are illegal immigrants.

-fast food nation.

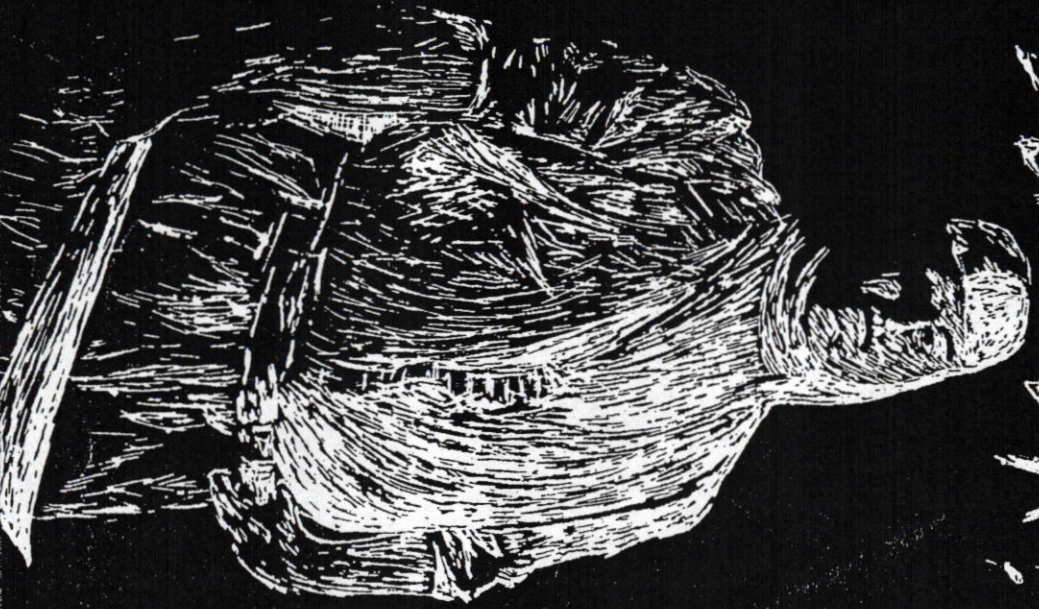


Watching people shoot  
pigs with a bolt gun  
-the pigs are screaming in  
fear and the men  
are whistling.





THE QUESTION IS NOT  
"CAN THEY TALK?" OR "CAN THEY  
REASON?" but "CAN THEY  
SUFFICE?"  
-JENNIFER



I was looking at the IBP website tonight. the job listings stressed the advantage of being bi-lingual and had a picture of an asian businessman talking to a white businessman. I cannot help but think a huge part of this bilingual need is not to make business deals with asian business people (who are most likely fluent in english) but to communicate with mexican immigrants who do not speak very good english and have some of the worst jobs in IBP's many slaughterhouses.





the "IBP (union busting, low-waged,

unskilled assembly line labor)

Revolution" made a few folks real rich.



This mother will Never Stand Again

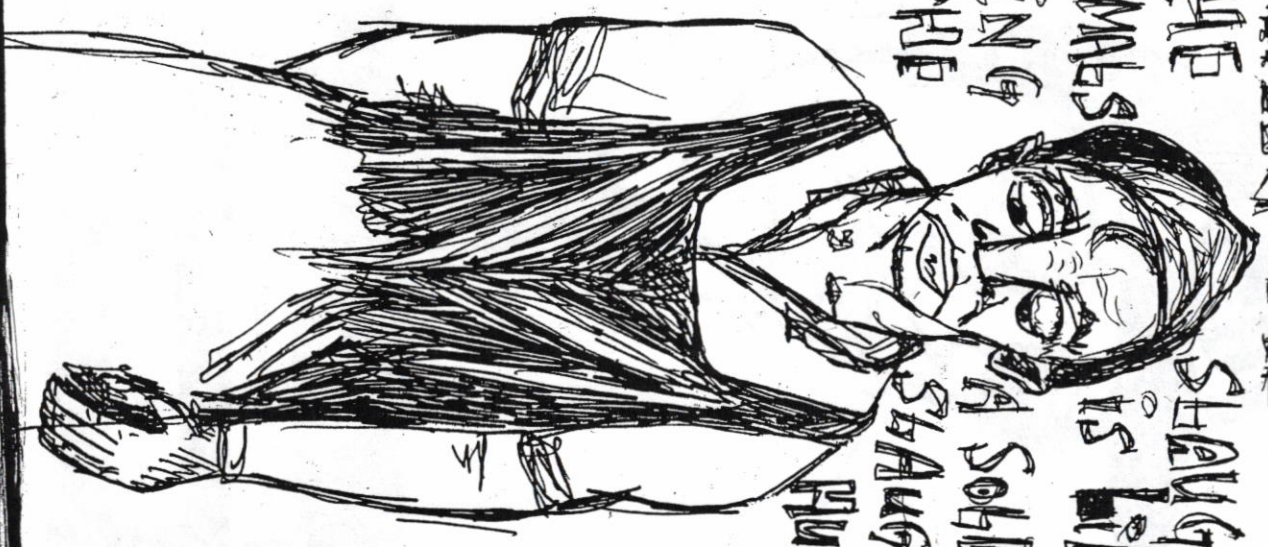
It is common practice to cut  
off pigs tails because this  
minimizes activity leading to  
Faster weight gain  
Pigs usually live no longer than  
Six Months on today's Factory  
FARMS.



Where do you decide exploitation of vulnerable individuals is OK? If racism is wrong, homophobia must also be wrong because it is the same social justice issue. AS IS discrimination AGAINST women. THESE ARE ALL labels that divide us. When you take away someone's rights and give them value BASED ONLY on their worth to you it is the SAME problem regardless of whether the exploited (workers, women, animals, etc.) Why do we accept divisions we think we benefit from, at the expense of others and where do we draw the line? Many of us believe exploitation of humans is wrong, but living, feeling non-human animals we can justify torturing and slaughtering because they taste appealing. MANY OF US DRAW THE LINE AT

SPECIESISM WHY?

BLAMING ME FOR  
THE  
OF ANIMALS  
BLAMING  
FOR THE  
OF  
SLAUGHTER  
is like  
A SOLDIER  
SLAUGHTERS  
HUMANS.





i am constantly noticing how my respect for the victims of the meat and dairy industry grows and becomes more complex.

when i used to talk about victims of the meat and dairy industry, i would be thinking

about all the animals ~~xx~~ that have and are suffering because of our obsession with a meat

based diet...as time passes i widen my definition of meat industry casualties.

i still think of the animal's lives that have been exploited, but i have also gained a deep respect for the workers in these industries.

all the farmers who have seen their way of life taken from them and sold back as a cheaper genetically modified version of the work they have done.

i am also thinking about all the workers in slaughterhouses and factory farms, suffering great health risks, having their labor and bodies exploited by a few rich people in control of modern meat and dairy production.

how different are these levels of exploitation?

will there be a day when these workers will be identified by the ear tags farm animals routinely wear?

PIGS HAVE SIMILAR INTELLIGENCE  
IN COMPARISON TO DOGS BUT IF A  
SINGLE DOG IS TREATED THE SAME  
WAY MILLIONS OF PIGS ARE  
TREATED EACH YEAR IN AMERICA  
IT IS CONSIDERED

## ANIMAL CRUELTY







EGGS LAYING HENS SPEND THEIR LIVES IN BATTERED CAGES AND BROILER CHICKENS ARE KILLED WHEN THEY ARE 7 WEEKS OLD

Human ~~Natural~~ Lifespan is 7

BILLIONS OF ~~BIRDS~~ ARE KILLED EACH YEAR years





I photographed this dairy cow (#284) in its most free moment of the day. Everyday this cow (#284) gets let out of its stall for a couple minutes. It goes outside on a cramped cement pad where over 20 cows drink water and eat hay. It was important for me to document #284 when it was able to move and experience atleast a minimal amount of freedom.

(#284 is pictured on the previous page)





once a dairy cow's milk ~~is~~ production drops

they

are sent to

slaughter to become hamburger or dog food.

